

Examiners' Report Summer 2008

GCE O Level

GCE O Level Gujarati (7616)

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Contents

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 7616 Gujarati Examiner's report | 5 |
| 2. | Statistics | 7 |

7616 Gujarati Examiner's report

The Syllabus for 7616 Gujarati is devised of one paper of 3 hours, consisting of 4 question. The paper is of a comparable standard, and its aim was to test fluency and free flowing expression along with correct usage and grammatical structures whilst taking special note of features like spelling and gender which may distort the meaning if wrongly applied.

On the whole the standard is maintained, many candidates showed commendable knowledge of the languages. A high proportion of the candidates have done very well throughout the exam paper, scoring praiseworthy marks. However, there are a few examples of average performance especially for Q1 and Q2 e.g. usage of the language and agreement of the verb with the relevant nouns, adjectives etc. There is an evidence of fluent flow in the essay writing and a good mastery over the translation passages through the cross-section of all the centres.

Translation passages are set to assess the flexibility of both languages and reaction of languages in certain contexts. The skill of translation needs understanding of how to transfer one language to another without distorting the meaning, at the same time not giving the literal word to word translation but translation but to carry the flavor and flavour of the relevant languages.

Question 1

Candidates seemed to be comfortable with the passage. A number of candidates scored quite high marks, showing a good command in both the languages.

Question 2 and 3

Candidates seemed to have had enjoyed translating this passage. There were interesting examples of using a number of various vocabulary for a particular word/phrases e.g. 'rushed in with affection', 'intense love that dripped from his voice' and 'He sat almost embracing his mother'.

Question 4

A variety of topics and choices are offered to candidates ranging from subjective to imaginative and thought provoking topics. The intention is to test the knowledge of the candidates from their personal experiences to the wider issues, to reflect, react and express opinions.

Options a, b and c were equally popular. Those who attempted option c (this is our planet- let us save it) and option b (Advantage of learning Gujarati) presented well planned, thought provoking, interesting, factual accounts, with utmost enthusiasm and understanding. Those who attempted topic c, presented a well planned content with concern, awareness and understanding, spelling out practical solutions for the problem for global implications. Those who dealt with option b, presented the issue of "Mother tongue" and discussed various aspects. These were high scoring topics.

Statistics

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest Mark for award of grade	60	45	31	26	20

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